



2015 City of Fayetteville Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Brotherhood Award

Since Martin Luther King Day in 2002, I have been privileged to select and honor a City of Fayetteville employee to receive the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Brotherhood Award. This award is given annually in recognition to that City employee whose service to our City and our community best exemplifies Dr. King's Dream of Equality, Justice and Brotherhood. It is my pleasure to recognize Sondra Smith as the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Brotherhood Award recipient.

This year's honoree joins a distinguished list of over a dozen City employees who have embodied Dr. King's Dream and have helped fulfill his legacy of hope and service to community. This year's honoree also has exemplified Dr. Martin Luther King's spirit of equality and legacy of service. She has managed one of our most important City Departments and worked diligently and creatively to expand its services to our City staff and citizens.

Sondra is always down to earth and humble, she works diligently every day to help Fayetteville citizens who have questions about our government, to help those citizens and City staff locate important City documents, ordinances, and historical records. She ensures all important City documents from multimillion bond documents and contracts whether for \$10,000.00 or \$10 million to all municipal ordinances and resolutions are safely stored and indexed for later reference. She accurately reports and maintains the records for every City Council meeting. She led the effort to put our City Council meetings

on the internet live so our citizens can more easily watch our government and our elected officials and understand their plans and proposals.

Sondra has served our City and citizens as City Clerk/Treasurer since February 2003. I have worked closely with Sondra for a dozen years now and can attest to her servant leadership, her integrity and her kindness to all who visit the City Clerk's Office. Fayetteville City Clerk Sondra Smith has served with distinction and dedication not only here in Fayetteville but as a state wide leader in the Arkansas Municipal League and Arkansas City Clerks Association. Not only has she served that association as its Treasurer and President, last year she received its Municipal Leadership Award. Sondra also has worked to become an International and Arkansas Certified Municipal Clerk. Sondra now trains other Arkansas City Clerks who seek to obtain their certification.

Sondra also serves her community. For many years she has worked at the Fayetteville Senior Center helping to welcome our seniors and serve them meals. Sondra helps with the Senior Giving Tree at our Senior Center to ensure our elders can better experience the joy of Christmas with a gift and a party. Sondra is also very active in her church and its community outreach programs. Sondra is a glowing example of how the Golden Rule should not just be preached, but lived. Sondra Smith is a worthy recipient of the 2015 City of Fayetteville Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Brotherhood Award.